



CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS
Department of Health & Human Services
Division of Public Health



Public Health
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Matilde Castiel, MD
Health & Human Services
Commissioner

Karyn E. Clark
Public Health
Director

DATE: November 5, 2018
RE: WORCESTER BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
START TIME: 6:30 PM
LOCATION: WORCESTER DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
25 MEADE STREET, CONFERENCE ROOM 109
WORCESTER, MA 01610

Welcome & Introductions:

Meeting was called to order at 6:40pm.

Members present: David Fort, Chair, Jerry Gurwitz, MD, Abigail Averbach

Absent: Edith Claros, PhD, Vice Chair WDPH Staff: Karyn Clark, Director of DPH

Approval of the October 15, 2018 Minutes:

Motion to approve the WBOH meeting minutes of October 15, 2018 made by Jerry Gurwitz, MD
Second - Abigail Averbach - Approved

Review and act on medical marijuana dispensary license for Prime Wellness:

John Glowik, CEO, Prime Wellness: Our mission is to provide an alternative way to access medication to take care of your pain relief. We are located at 65 Pullman Street, Worcester, MA. We are at a point now where we are finalizing things. The building has been inspected by Inspectional Services and the Police Dept. with one outstanding issue from the Fire Dept. with the signal transmitter. There is an issue transmitting a signal directly to the Fire Dept. A new transmitter has been ordered and will be installed before the temporary occupancy permit expires. We want to co-locate the new adult use of recreational marijuana into this facility as well. The point of sales counters will dictate the difference between medical and recreational sales. They have to be kept separate per the State so they can record the revenues on each product line. 20% taxes will be implied on recreational but the medical products will continue to have no tax for the patients that have their certified card. Every medical patient will come in and get registered into the State Registry System. We will know exactly what and how much product they purchased. They are allowed a maximum of ten ounces every sixty days. As far as recreational, they are allowed to purchase a maximum of one ounce per visit. Briefed the BOH on how well the staff is trained. We hope to open and have product available the first week of December.

David Fort, Chair: What is your protocol if a "bad strain" got out and was producing bad side effects?



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John Glowik, CEO, Prime Wellness: We know exactly what that patient has purchased and what that batch number is. We would ask the patient to bring that particular product back. The State would be notified immediately. If there was a problem it would have been picked up by the analytical laboratory before we could sell the product. The physicians tell us what strains to use.

Jerry Gurwitz, MD: Are there any regulations on your community outreach and what information is conveyed?

John Glowik, CEO, Prime Wellness: There are no regulations. Our Outreach Coordinator cannot share information.

David Fort made a motion to issue a license to operate a medical marijuana dispensary for Prime Wellness. All in favor. The motion was passed unanimously.

Review and act on discussion on 2018 Greater Worcester Community Health Assessment (CHA):

Karyn Clark, Director PH: On October 29th, at the Senior Center, I, Kim Salmon, Fallon Health and Monica Lowell, UMass Memorial, presented on the 2018 Greater Worcester Community Health Assessment (CHA). The DPH has been fortunate to work with these two other institutions that provide funding to be able to do a comprehensive health assessment across the City and the six other towns that are in our Regional Health District. Briefed the BOH members on the new release of the 2018 CHA and what the priority health and population issues are. The annual meeting for the Coalition and a report going out on the CHIP regarding where we are now, what progress we have made and what else needs to be done will be held on November 29th at 8:30 at the Boys and Girls Club.

Review and act on discussion regarding Coalition for a Healthy Greater Worcester CHIP work plan:

Casey Burns, Director, Coalition for Healthy Greater Worcester: We have discussed, in previous meetings, a couple of potential areas where we felt it could be collaborative efforts between the BOH and the Coalition's work across the priority areas of the CHIP work plan (distributed). Casey briefed the BOH pertaining to two areas that she would like to schedule presentations for the status of assessment and ask for recommendations and further action steps to be taken for 1.)Economic Opportunity 2.)Safety Working Group. We are working on decreasing fatal opioid overdoses in the Region. We have been working on an advocacy initiative with the City Manager's Office to approach the Worcester County Jail to ask for changes in their protocol upon their release to provide and education on Narcan. The Coalition's Policy and Advocacy Sub-Committee is developing a 2019 policy agenda and have narrowed down their overall policy initiatives that they are going to be working on (distributed).

Motion to adjourn; Abigail Averbach, Second by Jerry Gurwitz, MD

Adjourn: 7:40pm

Next Meeting -- December 3, 2018 at 6:30pm

Next Meeting Topics:

Window Guards

Gun Violence and buyback

Unclaimed Remains

